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SOURCE                      Kung-shang Jih Pao.

DISCUSSES HONG KONG-USSR TRADE,  
KUANG-CHOW TRADE REGULATIONS

SAYS USSR MUST LIFT BARTER REQUIREMENTS -- Kung-shang Jih-pao, 14 Dec 49

A director of a Hong Kong businessmen's association recently asserted that the only way that trade between Hong Kong and the Soviet Union could be increased was the lifting of trade restrictions by the USSR. He added that it would be necessary for them to remove the barter trade requirements and permit free import and export transactions.

Many traders have been interested in the effect that British recognition of the People's government of China will have on Hong Kong-USSR trade. Whether or not recognition of the Chinese Communist government will induce the Soviet government to make changes in its foreign trade policy remains to be seen.

HONG KONG FEARS KUANG-CHOW REGULATIONS -- Kung-shang Jih-pao, 9 Dec 49

Hong Kong businessmen fear that the recently promulgated Kuang-chou exchange and import-export regulations, coming immediately after the huge capital levy of 15 billion yuan People's currency on Kuang-chou businessmen, will discourage traders.

While they admit that the purpose set forth in these regulations of securing a balanced trade may be desirable, they believe the methods to be employed will mean a practical shutdown of trade between Hong Kong and Kuang-chow. They are complaining that the time required to secure cars for shipping on the Chiu-lung-Kuang-chow Railroad makes it very difficult for traders to complete transactions within the time limit placed on exchange certificates. In addition, they say that the extra fees and tipping required to secure action, both from the trade-control authorities and the railroad authorities, are greatly hampering trade in this city.

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KUANG-CHOU AUTHORITIES RAISE FREIGHT RATES -- Kung-shang Jih-pao, 10 Dec 49

The CCP authorities at Kuang-chou have announced that from 8 December 1949 the freight rates on the Chiu-lung--Kuang-chou and Kuang-chou--Hangk'ou Railroads will be raised to 13 times the previous rates. This raise in rate is causing great hardship to traders with goods already under contract.

It is said that this change, together with a recent rise in customs rates, has added 70 percent to the cost of goods entering South China from Hong Kong.

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